

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Johnson, et al. :
: Art Unit: 2856
Serial No.: 10/750,417 :
: Examiner: Jacques M. Saint-Surin
Filed: December 31, 2003 :
:
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR :
DETECTING CRACKS IN WELDS :

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

The following comments are in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowability dated May 8, 2008.

Applicants believe that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is improper as reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear the Examiner's reasons for allowing a claim or claims (see 37 CFR §1.104(e)). In the present case, Applicants believe the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and therefore no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, Applicants do not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance and do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's interpretation of the teachings of the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Tersillo
Registration No. 42,180
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070